

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 14 and 15, with the following amended paragraph.

A1

Fig. 6 is a view showing the attributes of a study ID [[63]] 61, a serial number 62 and an image number 63.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 9-18, with the following amended paragraph.

A2

The X-ray image [[taking]] collection apparatus 1 receives the ordering information from an external network 3. The present embodiment has two modes, namely a mode of automatically entering an image taking start procedure simultaneously with the reception of the ordering information and another mode of entering the image taking start procedure with the received ordering information through a user interface. These modes will not be explained here since they will be explained later with reference to Fig. 2.

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 1-16, with the following amended paragraph.

A3
cont

Also a grid operating speed parameter is adjusted. An exposure button 4 serves as a trigger for generating the X-ray. An exposure signal [[a]] "a" generated by the exposure button 4 is entered into an image reading control portion 20 of the image collection

A3
A4

apparatus 1. The image reading control portion 20, after confirming whether the solid-state image taking element 6 is in a state of forming an image upon receiving the X-ray by the state of a drive information signal, generates an exposure enabling signal. The exposure permission signal turns on an exposure enabling switch [[10]] 2, thereby passing the exposure signal [[a]] "a" as an exposure signal [[b]] "b". The switch employed for this purpose is called a second switch of the exposure button. The exposure signal [[b]] "b" is transferred to an X-ray generation control portion 5.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 6, line 25, and ending at page 7, line 11, with the following amended paragraph.

A4

The image reading control portion 20 is controlled by a CPU 17, which is also connected, through a bus 21, to a RAM 13, a ROM 14, a LAN/IF 15, a DISK/IF 16, a control panel, a non-volatile storage device 19 and a user IF 18. The non-volatile storage device 19 in the present embodiment is composed of a hard disk. The user IF 18 is provided with a display 11 and a keyboard/mouse 12 for interfacing with the user. Naturally there may be employed a touch panel. The image transferred to the image reading control portion 20 is stored in the [[ROM]] RAM 13 and is subjected to various processing to be explained later in the CPU.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 12-24, with the following amended paragraph.

At the same time, the part information, a 1st body part ordered for inspection, is transferred from the order reception portion 31 to a [[part]] parts button selection portion 29 together with the instruction for starting the image taking. Thus, the [[part]] parts button selection portion 29 enables a part button of the corresponding part for selection. Also the user interface 18 displays the image taking condition according to the ordered image taking information. As will be clarified in the following description, as soon as the image taking of the ordered 1st part is completed, the image taking procedure is started according to the part information of a 2nd body part.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 8, line 25, and ending at page 9, line 5, with the following amended paragraph.

Then the image taking condition is transferred from the order reception portion 31 to an image taking condition setting portion 26, together with the instruction for starting the image taking. The image taking condition setting portion 26 sets the conditions of the X-ray tube, such as the tube voltage and the focus size, in the X-ray ~~generator~~ generation control portion 5 according to the ordered image taking condition.

Please replace the paragraphs at page 10, lines 2-24, with the following amended paragraphs.

Then the image taking condition is transferred from the order reception portion 31 to an image taking operation condition storage portion 24, together with the instruction for

starting the image taking. In order to manage the history of the image taking information, the storage is made in the RAM and the hard disk of the system.

In the following there will be explained a case where the tube setting is changed in the X-ray generator generation control portion 5.

Ab
Exel

In the present embodiment, the operator can arbitrarily set, in the X-ray generator generation control portion 5, a condition such as the tube voltage or the focus size different from the ordered image taking condition, according to the health state of the subject. In such case, the X-ray image collection apparatus 1 accepts the change of the image taking condition from an image taking condition change receiving portion 22. The drive instruction portion, the grid operation setting portion 28 and the image taking condition storage portion 25 ~~executes~~ execute the above-described procedures again since the image taking condition is reset. Also the user interface 18 displayed the changed image taking condition.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 5-15, with the following amended paragraph.

A7

In response to the depression of the exposure button 4 by the operator, the X-ray is generated to execute the image taking. Thereafter, the image taking operation condition, such as the image taking time and the mAs value, is generated by the X-ray generator generation control portion 5, and is received by the image operation condition receiving portion 23 and transferred to an image taking operation condition storage portion 24. The storage is made in the RAM and the hard disk of the system in order to manage the history of the image taking operation.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 3-15, with the following amended paragraph.

A8 One of the features of the present embodiment lies in a fact that the X-ray ~~generator~~ generation control portion 5 is provided for setting the solid-state image taking element 6 in the driven state. Therefore, even if the image taking element is shifted to the non-driven state upon expiration of 1 minute, it can be reset to the driven state by an instruction for changing the parameter from the X-ray ~~generator~~ generation control portion 5. Therefore, the instruction for change is given from the X-ray ~~generator~~ generation control portion 5 even if the parameter remains the same before and after the change. This function allows the operator to execute the image taking operation even without looking at the display on the X-ray image collection apparatus 1.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 12, line 18, and ending at page 13, line and 17, with the following amended paragraph.

A9
CMT At the image taking operation, the operator depresses an image taking start button 302 to request that the ordering device 33 transmits the order list, whereby the received order list is displayed to enable selection of an order therefrom. In a case where the transmission of the order list is not requested, and if the order is transmitted from the ordering device 33 to the X-ray image collection apparatus 1, the image taking start procedure is initiated according to the received ordering information. When the image taking procedure is started, a "chest PA" button 310 indicating the initial image taking part is rendered selectable as illustrated. Also as the

image taking condition 303, there is displayed a tube voltage of 125 kV ~~is displayed~~. This value can be changed in the X-ray ~~generator~~ generation control portion 5, and is changed on a real-time basis according to the change in the X-ray ~~generator~~ generation control portion 5. The image taking operation is thereafter executed, and the image taking operation condition 304 of 30 mAs is displayed on the user interface. When all the image taking operations are executed, the inspection is terminated either by the depression of an inspection end button 311 or automatically by a time-out. Upon completion of the inspection, the image taking information and the image taking operation information are returned to the ordering device 33 as explained in the foregoing. Also the collected images are externally transferred through the network.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 18-25, with the following amended paragraph.

Then the exposure button 4 is depressed to execute the image re-taking, whereupon the re-taken image is displayed as illustrated. The previous image, which is now regarded as an already collected image because of the image re-taking, is to be replaced by the re-taken image in the default condition, and is therefore displayed with a cross mark thereon. Fig. [[5]] 4 shows a case where the image re-taking is executed twice.

Please replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 5-15, with the following amended paragraph.

When the user re-selects, on the user input/output portion [[41]] 51, the representative image from the images obtained by image re-taking, a notice is given to a collection image re-selection portion 55 and further to the display portion 53 and the image re-taking/system control portion 56. The display portion 53 executes erasure and setting of the cross marks, while the image taking/system control portion 56 maintains the representative image, and transfers the representative image only to the network when the inspection is terminated.

Please replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 19-21, with the following amended paragraph.

Fig. 11 is a flow chart of the image re-taking process by the actuation of the part setting button [[300]] 309.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 16, line 22, and ending at page 17, line 5, with the following amended paragraph.

A step S1101 discriminates whether the part setting button [[300]] 309 has been depressed, and, if depressed, the sequence proceeds to a step S1102. The step S1102 discriminates whether an image with the same unique ID (Patent Name Display Area 301) is present in the already taken images, namely the already collected images, and the sequence proceeds to a step S1103 or S1107, respectively, such that the image is present or absent. The unique ID (Patent Name Display Area 301) is information for specifying the image taking

A12
Amel
information such as the subject name, body part to be taken, image taking direction, image taking condition, etc.

Please replace the paragraph at page 17, lines 13-22, with the following amended paragraph.

A13
A step S1104 attaches cross marks on all the images of the same unique ID in the already collected images. In this state, the already collected images 1[[,]] (401) and 2 (402) are displayed with the cross marks, as shown in Fig. 4. Then a step S1105 sets, on the last taken image, namely the re-taken image 403 in Fig 4, a unique [[IID]] ID, same as that of the already collected images 1[[,]] (401) and 2 (402). Then a step S1106 displays the re-taken image in an overview 305 whereupon the image re-taking process is terminated.

Please replace the paragraph at page 20, lines 7 and 8, with the following amended paragraph.

A14
Fig. 6 shows the attributes of a study ID [[63]] 61, a series number 62 and an image number 63.
